



Bruce Rauner, Governor
Jeff Mays, Director

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Bob Gough
Phone: 217-524-3486

Ron Payne
Phone: 217.557.1869

Unemployment Rates Decrease in Twelve Metro Areas

Much of Downstate still suffering job losses

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	July 2016	July 2015	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	5.2%	5.2%	0.0
Carbondale-Marion	6.0%	6.2%	-0.2
Champaign-Urbana	5.1%	5.5%	-0.4
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	5.6%	6.2%	-0.6
Danville	7.1%	7.4%	-0.3
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	5.6%	5.4%	0.2
Decatur	6.7%	7.8%	-1.1
Elgin	5.1%	5.8%	-0.7
Kankakee	6.1%	6.8%	-0.7
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	4.8%	5.3%	-0.5
Peoria	6.3%	6.8%	-0.5
Rockford	6.2%	7.8%	-1.6
Springfield	4.7%	5.3%	-0.6
St. Louis (IL-Section)	5.7%	6.4%	-0.7
Illinois Statewide	5.6%	6.2%	-0.6

* Data subject to revision.

CHICAGO—Twelve of Illinois' metropolitan (metro) areas experienced decreases in their over-the-year unemployment rate and eight of the metro areas had increases in nonfarm jobs, according to preliminary data released today by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES).

"Our job growth rate is still half that of the rest of the country," said IDES Director Jeff Mays. "Most of our job growth is concentrated primarily in the northeast corner of the state while downstate job growth continues to lag."

Illinois businesses added jobs in eight metro areas, in which the largest increases were seen in: Elgin (+2.1 percent, +5,300), Rockford (+1.9 percent, +2,900), and Lake-Kenosha (+1.6 percent, +6,800). Total nonfarm jobs in the Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division increased (+1.2 percent or +44,900). Illinois businesses lost jobs in five metro areas including Carbondale-Marion (-2.5 percent, -1,400), the Quad Cities (-2.3 percent, -4,200), and Decatur (-1.5 percent, -800). The industry sectors recording job growth in the majority of metro areas were:

Retail Trade (nine of 14), Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities (nine of 14), Education and Health Services (eight of 14), Leisure and Hospitality (eight of 14), and Government (eight of 14).

Not seasonally adjusted data compares July 2016 with July 2015. The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 5.6 percent in July 2016 and stood at 12.2 percent at its peak in this economic cycle in January 2010. Nationally, the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.1 percent in July 2016 and 10.6 percent in January 2010 at its peak. The unemployment rate identifies those who are out of work and looking for work, and is not tied to collecting unemployment insurance benefits.

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Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – July 2016

Metropolitan Area	July 2016*	July 2015**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	91,500	92,800	-1,300
Carbondale-Marion MSA	55,400	56,800	-1,400
Champaign-Urbana MSA	106,500	105,000	500
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,726,800	3,681,900	44,900
Danville MSA	29,200	29,100	100
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	181,100	185,300	-4,200
Decatur MSA	51,000	51,800	-800
Elgin Metro Division	261,200	255,900	5,300
Kankakee MSA	44,300	44,300	-0-
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	421,000	414,200	6,800
Peoria MSA	178,000	179,100	-1,100
Rockford MSA	155,400	152,500	2,900
Springfield MSA	114,600	113,400	1,200
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	233,000	232,500	500
Illinois Statewide	6,029,900	5,986,800	43,100

*Preliminary **Revised

(continued)



**Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates
(percent) for Local Counties and Areas**

	July 2016	July 2015	Over- the-Year Change
Decatur MSA			
Macon County	6.7%	7.8%	-1.1
Springfield MSA			
Menard County	4.1%	4.5%	-0.4
Sangamon County	4.7%	5.4%	-0.7
Cities			
Decatur City	7.7%	8.7%	-1.0
Springfield City	5.2%	6.0%	-0.8
Counties			
Adams County	4.7%	5.2%	-0.5
Brown County	3.4%	3.8%	-0.4
Calhoun County	5.4%	6.6%	-1.2
Cass County	5.0%	5.8%	-0.8
Christian County	5.9%	6.9%	-1.0
DeWitt County	5.3%	5.7%	-0.4
Douglas County	4.5%	5.1%	-0.6
Greene County	5.5%	6.3%	-0.8
Jersey County	5.5%	6.4%	-0.9
Logan County	5.3%	5.8%	-0.5
Macoupin County	5.6%	6.4%	-0.8
Montgomery County	6.6%	7.8%	-1.2
Morgan County	4.6%	5.0%	-0.4
Moultrie County	4.4%	4.7%	-0.3
Piatt County	4.8%	5.4%	-0.6
Pike County	4.3%	5.2%	-0.9
Schuyler County	5.2%	5.8%	-0.6
Scott County	4.3%	5.2%	-0.9
Shelby County	5.5%	6.3%	-0.8
Other Areas			
LWA 19	6.5%	7.5%	-1.0
LWA 20	4.9%	5.6%	-0.7
LWA 21	5.5%	6.3%	-0.8
Central EDR	5.4%	6.2%	-0.8

Note:

Monthly 2015 unemployment rates and total nonfarm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February and March 2016, as required by the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Comments and tables distributed for prior metro area news releases should be discarded as any records or historical analysis previously cited may no longer be valid.

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Central Illinois Highlights

Help Wanted

Area employers advertised for 6,200 positions in July and approximately 85 percent sought full-time employment, according to Help Wanted OnLine data compiled by the Conference Board, which is a global, independent business membership and research association. Employers actually need more workers than the help wanted advertising indicates because some industries, such as Construction, typically do not post advertised job openings.

Decatur MSA

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate at 6.7 percent in July 2016 decreased from 7.8 percent in July 2015. There were an estimated 3,400 unemployed people in the labor force in July 2016.

The total number of nonfarm jobs in the Decatur metro area declined by -800 compared to one year ago. Payrolls increased in Health Care and Social Assistance (+100). Declines were reported in Construction (-300), Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (-200), Manufacturing (-200), and Financial Activities (-100). All other major industry sectors were stable compared to last year.

Springfield MSA

The unemployment rate decreased to 4.7 percent in July 2016 from 5.3 percent in July 2015. There were an estimated 5,300 unemployed people in the labor force in July 2016. The rate was the lowest of all metro areas in the state and remains below the comparable state and national rate. The data is not seasonally adjusted.

The Springfield metro area nonfarm job total increased by +1,200 compared to a year ago. Payroll increases were reported in Other Services (+400), Government (+400), Health Care and Social Assistance (+300), Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (+300), Leisure and Hospitality (+100), Wholesale Trade (+100), and Construction (+100). Declines were reported in Manufacturing (-100), Financial Activities (-100), and Information (-100). All other major industry sectors were little changed compared to last year.